



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

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RESTRICTED FIRE ZONE

Under a regulation made by The Minister of Natural Resources this area is temporarily declared a restricted fire zone. Under Section 12 of The Forest Act, any person who starts a fire in a restricted fire zone exposed to a fire hazard is liable to a fine of \$1000.00, three months in jail, and financial responsibility for any costs incurred in fighting a forest fire caused by the illegal act.

What you
should know
about
restricted
fire zones.

It's important.

It's important. And it's the law.

A restricted fire zone is designated by an act of the Provincial Legislature, signed by the Minister of Natural Resources, and strictly enforced throughout the restricted area. It's a drastic measure, taken only when necessary, but it has proven effective when the forest fire danger reaches the critical level.

A restricted fire zone does not restrict movement or recreational activity in the forest, but it does restrict the use of fire. After a restricted fire zone has been declared, it is illegal to set out a campfire for any purpose within the affected area, and failure to comply could result in a fine of \$1000.00, three months in jail, and financial responsibility for any costs incurred in fighting a forest fire caused by the illegal act.

It's a tough law, but a necessary one — one that's helping to save thousands of acres of forest.

When is a Restricted Fire Zone declared?

The restricted fire zone legislation is used only when conditions are so dry that an open fire of any kind, no matter how well tended, would represent a real threat to the surrounding area.

The decision to declare a restricted fire zone is not made arbitrarily by any one person. It is the result of investigation, discussion and agreement on the severity of conditions by fire control staff and the Minister of Natural Resources. It's a temporary measure reserved for extreme situations, and as soon as conditions permit, the restrictions are lifted.

How will I know if I'm in a restricted fire zone?

Once a restricted fire zone has been established, the Ministry of Natural Resources makes sure that everyone coming into the area is aware of it. The highly visible green and orange restricted fire zone signs may be seen along roadways, at popular camping spots, in sport lodges, gas stations and stores. Large ads appear in local newspapers, and announcements are made on radio and television stations in the area.

Can I still go camping in a restricted fire zone?

Yes, by all means, go camping, hiking, fishing; have fun and enjoy our most precious natural resource, but if you need heat for cooking or warmth, you'll have to take along a portable gas or propane stove.

When travelling in a restricted fire zone, exercise extreme caution. Watch your propane or gas equipment carefully. Smoke only when stationary, never while walking or working in the bush, and make sure that all matches and cigarettes are dead out before disposing of them.

When an area has been designated a restricted fire zone, you know the situation must be serious. Use your bush sense and act accordingly.

What else?

The most important thing to remember about a restricted fire zone is that campfires are illegal. Therefore, if you see a fire in a restricted fire zone chances are it's a wildfire and should be reported to the Ministry of Natural Resources right away. The sooner we can get to it, the better our chances of putting it out quickly.

So look for and obey the restricted fire zone signs, and report any wildfires to the Ministry. They're two positive things you can do to help us keep our forests green for everyone to enjoy.



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Hon. Frank S. Miller,
Minister

Dr. J. K. Reynolds
Deputy Minister



Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

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Under a regulation made by The Minister of Natural Resources this area is temporarily declared a restricted fire zone. Under Section 12 of The Forest Fires Prevention Act no person shall start a campfire outdoors in a restricted fire zone except in a portable stove or charcoal installation.



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Put this poster in a prominent place as a reminder.

When in a restricted fire zone, it is illegal to set out a campfire. Obey the law and help keep our forests green for everyone to enjoy.